

2-MWh Flow Battery Application by PacifiCorp in Utah

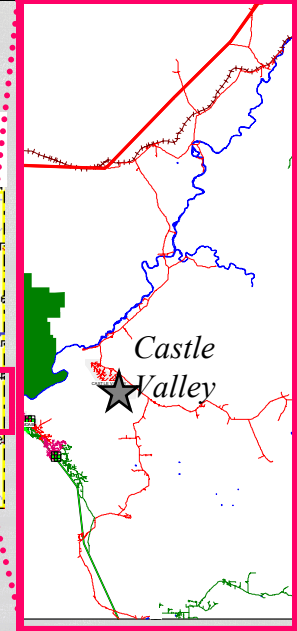
Mark T. Kuntz
VP Marketing & Business Development
mkuntz@vrbpower.com



California Energy Commission Staff Workshop:
Meeting California's Electricity System Challenges through Electricity Energy Storage
February 24, 2005

Rattlesnake#22

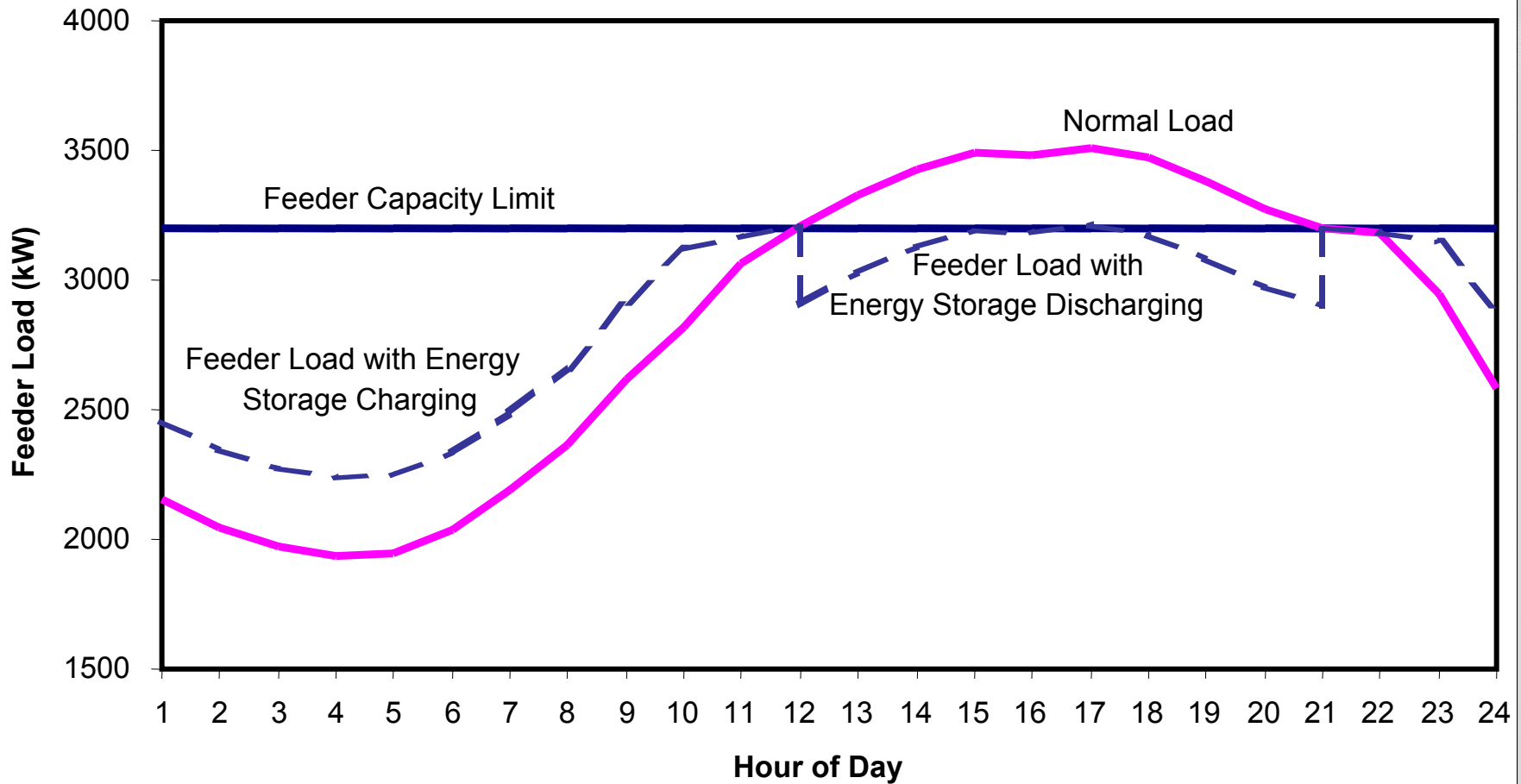
25kV Feeder



- **Environmentally Pristine Southeast Utah**
 - **East of Moab**
 - **East of Arches National Park**
 - **Along Colorado River valley**
- **209-mile long 25kV feeder, with 3-line regulators & 7-reclosers**
- **Possible denial of new connects because feeder cannot supply any significant amount of new load without causing low voltage to existing customers.**
- **Because feeder is so long, reliability and power quality led to Public Service Commission Complaints. PacifiCorp agreed to fix.**
- **Traditional alternatives to add capacity and improve service were very costly and environmentally difficult.**
- **Demonstrated distribution benefits of VRB energy storage as part of PacifiCorp's DG Strategy – 2 MWh, 250kW VRB-ESS (expandable to 1MW) in Castle Valley, Utah**

Daily Load Profile

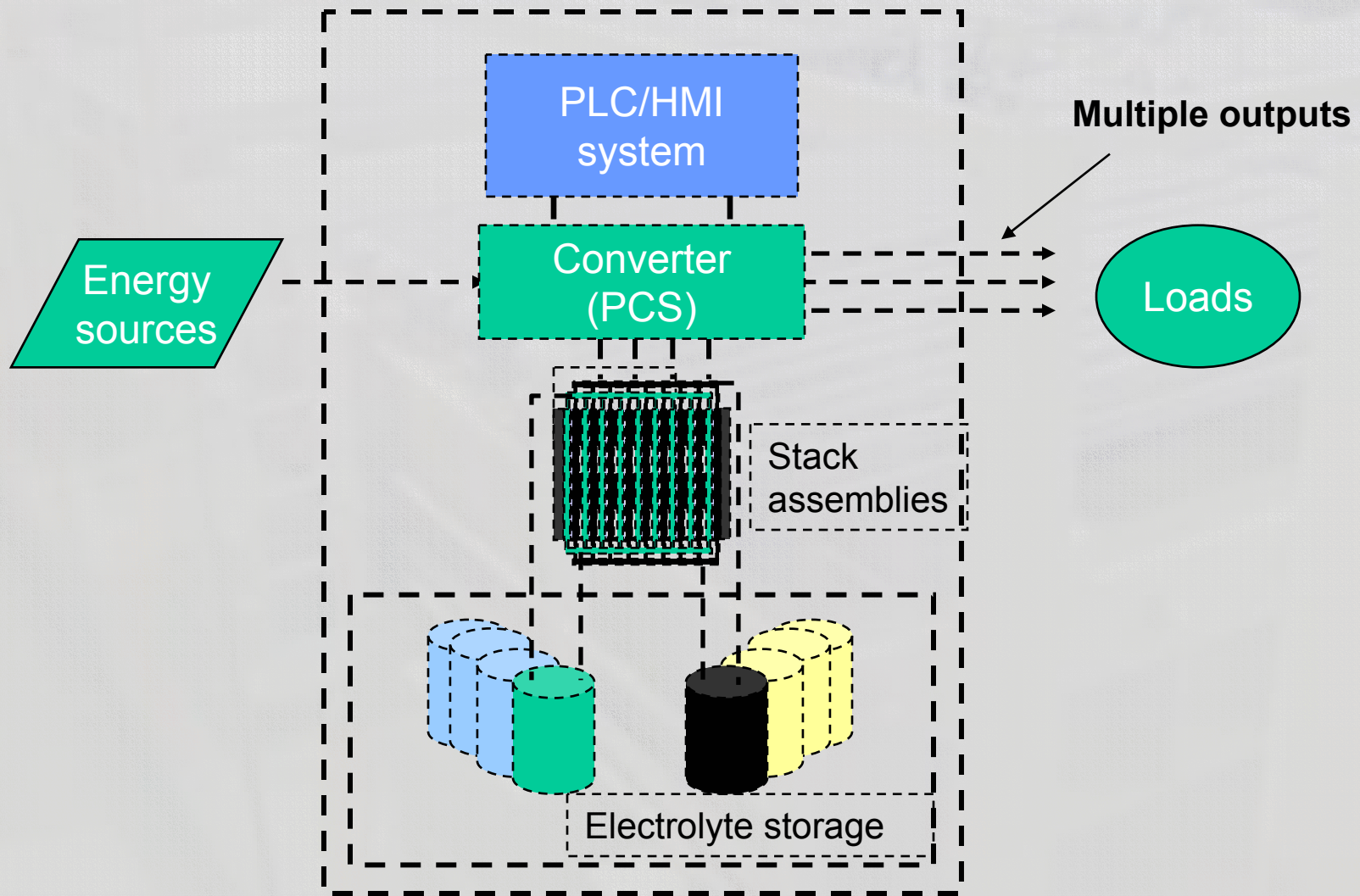
Energy Storage (250kW) Support of Feeder Load



What is a Flow Battery?

- **An electrochemical *energy storage system***
- **Electrolyte is stored outside the cell stack, so power and energy are independent**
- **Based on a reversible chemical reaction within a sealed system**
- **Electricity can be stored indefinitely in a liquid with very low self discharge**
- **Energy can be recovered almost instantaneously (< 5ms)**

Flow Battery Components



Technical Advantages of Flow Batteries

- **High-energy efficiencies: 70% round trip.**
- **Storage capacity can be easily increased by adding electrolyte.**
- **Designed for unattended operation with very low maintenance costs (\$0.008/kWh).**
- **Ambient/Low operating temperature.**
- **Can be discharged and charged >13,000 times without performance degradation.**
- **Intelligent, programmable PCS provides four-quadrant control and simultaneous real and reactive energy (VARs).**

Environmental Advantages

The Green Battery

- **No heavy metals such as lead, nickel, zinc and cadmium**
- **No air emission; minimal sound emissions**
- **Electrolytes have indefinite life**
 - **No disposal issues**
 - **Completely reusable**
- **PVC piping system**
- **Fiberglass tanks**









CAUTION
HOT SURFACES
DANGER OF BURNING
OR SCALDING
EXTREME CAUTION

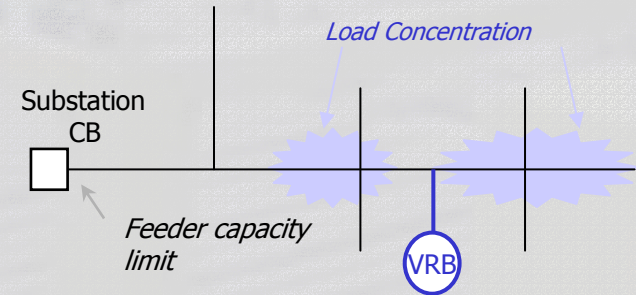
CAUTION
HOT SURFACES
DANGER OF BURNING
OR SCALDING
EXTREME CAUTION

TANK 12
WATER TREATMENT

Firestop
Firestop
Firestop

Cost Benefit Analysis

- **Alternate line and substation costs - \$4million with 3 year lead times**
- **Diesel Engine – (DG) - polluting , difficult to permit, long distance from fuel supply**
- **CAPEX \$500/kWh (first in USA)**
- **O&M \$0.008/kWh discharged**
- **VAR support – regulation control reduces need for switched capacitors**
- **Reduces line losses by ~40 kW**
- **Charge at night, discharge on peak – arbitrage value**



Cost Benefit - Capital Deferral (continued)

- **Capital deferral - 7.5%, 10 years. Cost of upgrade \$4 million**
- **Cost of VRB-ESS = \$1,000,000 (\$500/kWh)**
- **Arbitrage savings – 3 to 4 c/kWh = \$17,280/year**
- **Net Annual savings = (\$4 million - \$1 million) x 7.5% plus arbitrage savings = \$242,420**
- **IRR = 20% (before tax, unleveraged, 10 years)**

PacifiCorp Flow Battery Future Plans

- **Advanced application development:**
 - **Advanced power quality applications**
 - **Advanced islanded operations**
 - **Adaptive charge/discharge energy arbitrage control algorithms**
 - **Advanced dynamic voltage control algorithms**
 - **Dynamic stability control algorithms**
 - **Wind farm application studies**
- **Increases to capacity through:**
 - **Additional cell stacks**
 - **Higher capacity inverter**
 - **Increased molarity of the electrolyte**
- **Can relocate to new site once transmission line and sub is built**
- **Investigating future telecom site and substation battery replacements**